

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Pun Choon Ong

Serial No.: 10/708,559

Filed: March 11, 2004

Docket No.: P632.103.101

Title: METHOD OF WINCHING CUT TIMBER IN A FOREST AND A MACHINE DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 10.

Please amend claims 9, 13 and 14 as follows:

9. (Currently Amended) A machine for retrieving a felled log comprising:

a body having an engine, tracks, and an operator cabin.

a boom having first and second ends and attached to the body at the first end;

a ~~winch~~ pulley disposed proximate said second end of said boom;

a winch reel disposed proximate the boom first end, said winch reel is hydraulically powered for winding and unwinding a cable positioned by said pulley and attached to said log;

~~a solenoid valve hydraulically powering said winch reel;~~ and

a stabilizing arm pivotally attached to the boom and ~~stabilizing~~ to stabilize the boom machine when said logs are being retrieved; in which said stabilizing arm comprises at least one grappler and a bucket.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The machine of claim 9, in which the stabilizing arm comprises a hydraulically operated backhoe forearm.

13. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 12, in which said backhoe forearm is pivotally attached to the boom.

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14. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim 9, in which ~~[[a]]~~ the at least one grappler is attached in opposition to said ~~excavator~~ bucket.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method of retrieving a first log, comprising:

providing a log retrieving machine having a body, a boom and a stabilizing arm, wherein said boom is operably attached to said body and wherein said stabilizing arm is operably attached to said boom;

securing a cable around said first log, said cable extending through a pulley attached to a distal end of said boom, said boom stabilized by an attached backhoe forearm;

moving said stabilizing arm so that a distal end of said stabilizing arm engages a ground surface adjacent said log retrieving machine to stabilize the log retrieving machine; and

actuating a winch mounted on said log retrieving machine to draw in said cable, thereby retrieving said first log.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, in which the first log is retrieved to a lower elevation.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, in which the first log is retrieved to a higher elevation.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising grasping a second log.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, in which the second log is grasped by a grappler attached to the backhoe forearm.